



Illinois Department of Natural Resources

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HOLD FOR RELEASE

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Media Advisory: Trail of Tears State Forest Saving Illinois' Forests by Cutting Down Trees

WHO: Illinois Department of Natural Resources

WHAT: To save Southern Illinois forests, IDNR is removing trees – not planting them. Come learn more about why removing trees are critical to restoring a more open, sunny forest that can support a diversity of life.

WHEN: Tues., Oct. 4, 10:00 a.m.

WHERE: Trail of Tears State Forest
3240 State Forest Road
Jonesboro, IL 62952

WHY: New research shows dramatic changes are sweeping Southern Illinois forests. Recent inventories of Trail of Tears State Forest reveal oak trees and native plants are on the decline.

By selectively removing trees, we can let more light into the forest for oaks – the dominant tree in our forests and food for about 100 different animals. We can restore the forest's wildflowers, grasses and shrubs. Bees, butterflies and other pollinators feast on these flowers. We will improve habitat for wildlife, such as birds that prefer grassy openings for nesting and foraging.

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